

Appl. No. 10/784,377

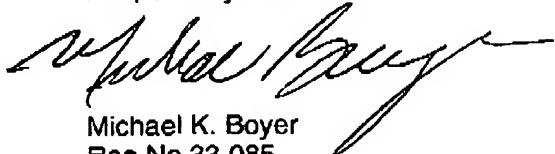
REMARKS

Applicants received a Notice of Non-Compliant Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) mailed on September 01, 2006. The Notice indicates that the IDS was filed after the issue fee was paid. Applicants respectfully disagree.

The IDS was filed on July 05, 2006 – not July 10, 2006. The IDS was filed with a certificate of mailing dated July 05, 2006 (a copy of the post card filed along with the IDS is attached hereto). The issue fee payment was filed on July 07, 2006 (a copy of the post card filed along with the issue fee payment is also attached hereto). While the post cards filed with the IDS and issue fee payment were both date stamped as being “received” by the PTO on July 10, 2006, the IDS was clearly filed with a certificate of mailing before the issue fee payment. Applicants respectfully submit that the dates set forth on the certificates of mailing should control the effective filing date of the IDS and issue fee payment. Applicants, therefore, respectfully submit that the IDS was filed before the issue fee payment, and request withdrawal of the Notice and consideration of the references cited on the IDS.

Should there be any fee due in connection with this Application, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 01-0493 (Air Products). Should the Examiner deem that any action on the part of Applicants would advance issuance of this application as a patent, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants’ attorney.

Respectfully Submitted,



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